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I, Robert J. Ward, hereby certify that this paper (along with any papers and fees referred to as being attached or enclosed or actually enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above, with sufficient postage, and is addressed as follows:

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In re Application of: Ward, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/086,584  
Filing Date: February 28, 2002  
Group Art Unit: 3727  
Examiner: Mai, Tri M.  
For: **Apparatus and Method for  
Protecting and Wiping a Surface**

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION  
OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136 TO RESPOND  
TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 22, 2003**

Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action mailed on December 22, 2003. The Office Action established a three-month shortened

statutory time period to respond. If this petition for a three-month extension of time is granted, the response will be due and timely filed on or before June 22, 2004.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit a total of \$475.00 for the filing of this Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time for a small entity from the credit card detailed in the attached *Credit Card Payment Form* and reference Attorney Docket No. INVSC.4. No additional fees are believed to be required in connection with these filings. To the extent that any further fees, whatsoever, are required at any time during prosecution of this application, including petition and extension fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees, including any under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, to the above-referenced credit card. Please credit any overpayments to this same credit card.

**Please direct all correspondence to the following address.**

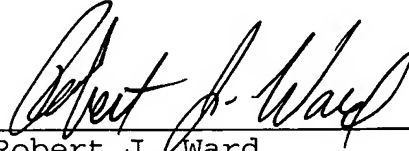
Robert J. Ward  
3313 Hidalgo Street  
Irving, Texas 75062  
Tel: 214.979.3027  
Email: rward@hunton.com

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. INVSC.4

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PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH  
EXTENSION OF TIME  
SERIAL NO. 10/086,584

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Ward", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert J. Ward  
Registration No. 38,652

Innovasource, Inc.  
3313 Hidalgo Street  
Irving, Texas 75062

Tel: 214.979.3027  
email: rward@hunton.com

June 18, 2004